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(54) Title: REDUCTION IN BIOLOGICAL OXYGEN DEMAND LEVELS IN WASTE WATER EFFLUENTS

(57) **Abstract:** The aeration process of the present invention reduces the biological oxygen demand of aqueous waste streams includ-
ing those from animal meat processing facilities, vegetable or fruit processing facilities, fermentation processes and certain organic
chemical processes. Magnesium chloride is used at a concentration of from about 0.02% to about 3.0% (w/v) and all ranges and con-
centrations therebetween, desirably from about 0.02% to about 0.5% (w/v), and aeration is carried out at a rate sufficient to maintain
a dissolved oxygen level of from about 1 to about 8 ppm for to about seven days, usually one to seven days. Desirably, especially
for animal meat processing waste streams, a dissolved air flocculation step precedes the aeration for (further) reduction of biological
demand, and preferably the dissolved air flocculation step is carried out with a magnesium salt.

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